

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A system for submitting and monitoring copy reproduction order requests, the system comprising:

a database to store information on copy reproduction requests, wherein the stored information comprises order information on copy reproduction requests and status information on copy reproduction requests;

a first client computer communicating with the database, wherein the first client computer being accessible by a user;

a second client computer communicating with the database to access the stored information on copy reproduction requests in the database, wherein the second client computer being accessible by a copy reproduction service provider; and

an application for submitting and monitoring copy reproduction requests accessible on the first client computer by a user, the application comprising:

means for entering order information on a copy reproduction request by a user;

means for storing the entered order information on a copy reproduction request in the database; and

means for retrieving status information from the database on a copy reproduction request submitted by a user.

2. The system of claim 1 wherein:

the stored information further comprises at least one file having material to be copied by the copy reproduction service provider; and

the application further comprises means for uploading the at least one file having material to be copied to the database.

3. The system of claim 2 wherein:

the stored information further comprises at least one file having distribution information for the copy reproduction service provider to distribute completed copies; and

the application further comprises means for uploading the at least one file having distribution information to the database.

4. The system of claim 2 further comprising an additional application for processing copy reproduction requests, wherein the additional application is accessible by a copy reproduction service provider on the second client computer, the additional application comprising:

means for reviewing order information from the database on a copy reproduction request by a user;

means for downloading the at least one file having material to be copied from the database to the second client computer for a copy reproduction request by a user; and

means for updating the status information in the database for a copy reproduction request by a user.

5. The system of claim 4 further comprising:

a server computer connected to the first client computer, the server computer comprising a storage device to store the application for submitting and monitoring copy reproduction requests; and

an additional server computer connected to the second client computer, the additional server computer comprising a storage device to store the additional application for processing copy reproduction requests.

6. The system of claim 5 further comprising means for a copy reproduction service provider to provide authentication information to access the additional application for processing copy reproduction requests stored on the additional server computer.

7. The system of claim 5 wherein the additional application for processing copy reproduction requests is accessed from the additional server computer on an Extranet and the database is accessed from an Intranet.

8. The system of claim 3 wherein the stored information on copy reproduction requests in the database is stored as binary large objects.

9. The system of claim 1 wherein the application further comprises means for changing, by a user, the status information on a copy reproduction request in the database.

10. The system of claim 1 wherein the application further comprises means for editing, by a user, the stored information on copy reproduction requests in the database and means for filtering, by a user, the stored information on copy reproduction requests in the database.

11. The system of claim 1 wherein the means for entering order information on a copy reproduction request by a user further comprises a copy reproduction order form, a wide format order form and a CD-ROM reproduction order form.

12. A computer program product embodied on a computer readable medium and executable by a computer for submitting and monitoring copy reproduction order requests, the computer program product comprising:

a database to store information on copy reproduction requests, wherein the stored information comprises order information on copy reproduction requests and status information on copy reproduction requests;

an application for submitting and monitoring copy reproduction requests accessible by a user, the application comprising:

means for entering, by a user, order information on a copy reproduction request;

means for storing the entered order information on a copy reproduction request in the database; and

means for retrieving status information from the database on a copy reproduction request submitted by a user; and

an additional application for processing copy reproduction requests, wherein the additional application is accessible by a copy reproduction service provider, the additional application comprising:

means for reviewing order information on a copy reproduction request by a user from the database;

means for downloading the order information for a copy reproduction request by a user from the database; and

means for updating the status information in the database for a copy reproduction request by a user.

13. The computer program product of claim 12 wherein the stored information further comprises:

at least one file having material to be copied by the copy reproduction service provider; and

at least one file having distribution information for the copy reproduction service provider to distribute completed copies; and  
the application further comprises:

means for uploading the at least one file having material to be copied to the database; and

means for uploading the at least one file having distribution information to the database.

14. The computer program product of claim 13 wherein the means for downloading the order information further comprises means for downloading the at

least one file having material to be copied from the database and means for downloading the at least one file having distribution information.

15. The computer program product of claim 12 further comprising means for a copy reproduction service provider to provide authentication information to access the additional application for processing copy reproduction requests.

16. The computer program product of claim 12 wherein the application further comprises means for editing the stored information on copy reproduction requests in the database by a user and means for filtering the stored information on copy reproduction requests in the database by a user.

17. The computer program product of claim 16 wherein the means for editing the stored information further comprises means for changing, by a user, the status information on a copy reproduction request in the database.

18. A method of submitting a copy reproduction order request to a copy reproduction service provider, the method comprising the steps of:

accessing, by a user, a copy reproduction application from a computer network;

selecting, by a user, a copy reproduction service to be provided by a copy reproduction service provider using the copy reproduction application;

completing, by a user, a copy reproduction order request for the selected copy reproduction service using the copy reproduction application;

storing the completed copy reproduction order request in a database, the completed copy reproduction order request including at least one file having material to be copied by the copy reproduction service provider;

accessing, by the copy reproduction service provider, a plurality of copy reproduction order requests from the database using a service provider application; and

downloading from the database, by the copy reproduction service provider, the at least one file having material to be copied for a copy reproduction order request selected by the copy reproduction service provider for making copies of the material to be copied.

19. The method of claim 18 further comprising the steps of:

automatically entering into the copy reproduction order request, by the copy reproduction application, personal information of a user; and

uploading the at least one file having material to be copied by the copy reproduction service provider to the database.

20. The method of claim 18 further comprising the steps of:

storing the completed copy reproduction order request in a file directory; and

transferring the completed copy reproduction order request from the file directory to the database.